

1999 – The Year in Review

The workshop “Government Documents and Legal Services Workshop,” held at the Monmouth County Library on October 28, 1999, was a big success. The evaluations stated that a clear majority – 80 percent – ranked the workshop as “above average” or “excellent.” Donated legal and government oriented books were given out as door prizes, and many people raved about the tasty, catered lunch during this full day workshop.

Compliments go to the two sets of speakers – the morning government documents group (Bob Lupp from the New Jersey State Library, Wen-Hua Ren from Rutgers University – Newark, and Laura Saur from Newark Public Library) and the afternoon legal services team (Katie McCarthy from the law library at Seton Hall, Andrea Battel from the library at the U.S. 3rd Circuit court of Appeals in Newark, and Lynne Olver, from the Morris County Library in Whippany, NJ).

Suzan Globus (from Globus Design Associates) spoke at the Reference Section’s workshop “Small is Relative” at the Spring Conference of the New Jersey Library Association at the Ocean Place Conference Resort in Long Branch, NJ. The Wednesday session (April 28, 1999) was well attended and Suzan addressed to the audience how to make the most of space in small libraries, with an emphasis on technology demands, multiple uses of space, and accordance with mission statements of libraries.

1999 Best of Free Reference Web Sites

<http://www.ala.org/rusa/mars/best1999.html>

Selected by the 1999 MARS Ad Hoc Best of Reference Task Force, this is planned as an annual series. Initiated under the auspices of the Machine-Assisted Reference Section (MARS) of the Reference and User Services

Association (RUSA) of ALA, it is made to recognize outstanding reference sites on the World Wide Web.

In 1998, the Machine-Assisted Reference Section (MARS) of the Reference and User Services Association (RUSA) of ALA developed a method of recognizing outstanding reference sites on the World Wide Web. The result was a list of twenty-five sites, nominated, annotated, and then voted on by a task force of thirteen practicing reference librarians representing academic, public, special, and government libraries. The Task Force’s work was to be a pilot project, however, the executive committee of MARS made a motion at its 1999 Annual Meeting to establish the list as an ongoing annual event. This list has also been published in the Autumn 1999 edition of Reference and User Services Quarterly (RUSQ).

Now where is...

...that source that tells you whether Section 352 at Veterans’ Stadium in Philadelphia looks down the third base line ? It’s the same source that states which seashore areas in New Jersey permit surfing at only certain beaches.

Which source is this? It is your New Jersey-area Bell Atlantic phone book! By now, most libraries around New Jersey should have these redesigned phone books, with the residential white pages separated from the business / professional / organizational white pages. Most of the phone books have the “market area” name prominently marked in bold blue letters on the spine. Some have those pesky advertisements on the spine with the name printed near the top of the spine in small black letters.

Each Bell Atlantic phone book serving New Jersey has a map on the first page of the yellow pages. When an area on that map is surrounded by a bold solid line, that is the area served by the white pages of that directory.

When the coverage areas of the yellow pages and the white pages is the same, this map shows the coverage area of both areas. When the yellow page coverage in a directory is smaller than the white pages coverage, part of this map is shaded, indicating that part covered by the yellow pages.

Need to find the names of neighboring directories ? On the previously mentioned map, names of adjacent directories are indicated around the perimeter of the area marked with the bold solid line. A list of towns covered in the yellow pages usually follows on the bottom of the same page.

A list of the towns covered in the white pages of your phone book by name is located on the second page of the “Bell Atlantic Customer Guide” section (immediately after the glossy “Showcase Pages” section). Most “Bell Atlantic Customer Guide” sections have the area code map of the United States, conveniently divided into time zones.

The “Showcase Pages” section answers the questions from the beginning of this article. You have to check the “Showcase Pages” for the Southern New Jersey / Greater Philadelphia for the Veterans’ stadium (by the way, Section 352, and Sections 538, 637, and 737 at Veterans’ Stadium, are immediately behind third base, looking back to home plate). The original 201 / 609 area code division (from not so long ago) is the border between the coverage areas of “Showcase Pages” for northern New Jersey / Greater New York City and Southern New Jersey / Greater Philadelphia. And Manasquan is one of those towns where surfing is permitted at certain beaches...

Trying to find out something ?

The origin of Walpurgis Night ? Maybe something else ?

Stumpers-L, sponsored by the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at Dominican University, was

There is a Stumpers Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) list [<http://www.cuis.edu/~stumpers/faq.html>], and access to search the Stumpers Archives. Use the welcome page [<http://www.cuis.edu/~stumpers/>] for this site to get to the electronic archives, marked under the link “Search the Stumpers Archives” further down this page.

Most of the continuing education graduate credit classes are offered online, yet a few in-class choices remain. A list of the Graduate Credit Courses offered this Spring 2000 semester at SCILS at Rutgers University is available at <http://www.scils.rutgers.edu/pds/s00cred.html>.

Online Courses have been designed to offer classes at a pace more suited to your schedule. Although not much live (real-time) “chat” is used in these courses, the classes are highly interactive and there is a significant discussion component to them. To maintain a meaningful level of discussion in these courses, class size is limited. The amount of time you will spend on the online courses will be equivalent to the in-class graduate level courses - but without the commute!

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